# General Fund Financial Forecast 2005-2010

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## Agenda

Recap summer discussions

Review Mayor's 2005/06 Budget Proposal

Evaluate Six-Year Financial Forecast

Examine options available to close fiscal gap

#### Recap of Summer Discussions

- City expects to live within its means through 2004
- Operating expenses growing faster than revenues
- Four distinct paths to balance the budget
  - Authorize additional revenues
  - Reduce level of City services
  - Revise Council fiscal policies
  - Combination of above
- Mayor and Council reached an agreement in principle to balance the 2005-06 budget

#### City Expects To Live Within Its Means In Current Biennium

	2003-04	2003-04
	<u>Budget</u>	Est. Actuals
Revenues	\$106.7	\$103.2
Expenditures	<u>\$106.7</u>	<u>\$102.1</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	\$1.1*

<sup>\*</sup>Note: Surplus carried over into 2005-06 Biennium and used for one-time expenses

#### Actions Taken To Live Within Means

- Salary and benefit cost containment measures
  - Implemented market-based compensation to align salaries and benefits with the market
  - Cut 11.7 FTEs in 2003-04
  - Filled vacancies only when absolutely necessary
  - Negotiated and implemented premium cost sharing
- Operating cost reductions (2000-2004)
  - Reduced overtime expenses by 21%
  - Reduced contractual/consultant services by 50%
  - Reduced operating supplies by 17%, despite increased costs from the City's suppliers

#### Operating Expenses Growing Faster Than Revenues

Change in GF Revenues and Expenditures between 2000 and 2004

	Cumulative Growth	Average Annual Growth
Revenues	1.8%	.45%
Expenditures	10.4%	2.5%

#### Measure of Comparison:

Inflation	9.0%	2.2%
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## Mayor And Council Agreement

- More time needed to develop long-term financial plan for the General Fund
- Use up to \$3M of \$3.3M economic contingency
- Commitment to look at new revenues

No significant reductions in levels of service

#### Mayor's 2005-06 Budget Proposal

- Is consistent with agreement reached in principle with Council
- Uses \$1.5M of economic contingency (one time revenues)
  - Remaining \$1.8M continues to be held as a hedge
- Includes a 1% increase in the City's portion of the property tax that will generate \$220,000 over the biennium.
- Proposes new ongoing revenues of \$3.5M\* (yet to be identified)
  - Choices
    - Adjust business license fee by inflation (\$2.0M/biennium)
    - Increase utility tax rate from 5.5% to 6% (\$1.4M/biennium)
    - Tap banked capacity (\$1.4M)
    - Ask voters to approve property tax levy lid lift current rate \$1.31/\$1,000AV;
       Maximum rate \$3.10 (\$15.7M in 2006)
- Reduces expenses without major reductions in service levels (\$1.8M/biennium; 6.7FTEs)

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Reflects additional revenue needed to fund PERS/LEOFF rate increases which were received too late to include in the 2005-06 budget.

#### General Fund's Six Year Forecast

#### Purpose:

- To continue to lay a foundation for a longterm financial plan by:
  - Determining the City's ability to pay for general government services (fire, police, parks, etc) over the next 6 years
  - Reviewing options available to close the fiscal gap

## Fiscal and Operational Challenges

- Economic Environment
  - When will recovery take hold and how strong will it be?
- Costs of servicing a growing community outpacing City revenues

- Regional services
- Streamlined Sales Tax legislation

#### Economic environment

When will recovery take hold and how strong will it be?

- Major factors affecting the economy
  - Consumer spending
  - The job market
  - Rising oil prices
  - War
  - Elections
- Unemployment rate is improving
  - However there are concerns about the number and quality of jobs being added

## What's Happening In Redmond

- Expecting a modest recovery in 2005
  - Microsoft and Boeing hiring
    - Microsoft plans to hire up to 3,000 new employees in Puget Sound
    - Boeing announced plans to hire up to 3,000 new employees
- Commercial development activity remains low
- Businesses continue to find Redmond attractive

- Wages forecasted to rise on average 3.5% per year based on trends (should not be construed as City's bargaining position)
- Benefits one of the fastest rising cost centers
  - Medical claim costs expected to rise on average 12% per year
  - City continues to negotiate premium cost sharing
- PERS/LEOFF rates increasing effective July 1, 2005
  - Estimated General Fund impact: \$1.0M in 2005-06 and fully funding at \$1.5M each biennium thereafter

#### City Hall

- Additional funding of \$350,000 annually for City Hall beginning in 2006 per conceptual funding plan
- Total City Hall lease payment is \$3.2 million per year

- Continued compliance with City fiscal policies
  - General Fund Operating Reserves increased from \$4.1M to \$4.9M to restore to 10% level
  - Transfers to CIP maintained at:
    - 5% of General Fund revenues: \$5.4/biennium
    - \$2.2M/biennium from sales tax on construction
  - Maintains transfers to Equipment Replacement Reserves: \$2.5M/biennium

- Regional Services
  - Assumes continued contracting with NE District Court through 2006
    - City evaluating future options
  - Jails
    - Costs expected to rise from \$1.2M in 2003-04 to \$1.7M by 2009-10, or over 40% over forecast period due to jail capacity commitments and inmate medical costs
  - Assumes continuation of pool contract with NW Center

- Additional staffing to maintain current service levels
  - Anticipates a minimum of 6FTEs each biennium for a total of 12 over forecast period (each FTE = \$160,000/biennium)
- Fire Station #17
  - City needs to decide how to staff station
    - Staff with aid car unit only need 8FTEs at a cost of \$1.8M/biennium
    - Full staffing with 12 firefighters = \$2.6M/biennium

## Major Revenue Assumptions

- New ongoing revenue: \$3.5M/biennium
  - Choices
    - Adjust business license fee by inflation (\$2.0M/biennium)
    - Increase utility tax rate from 5.5% to 6% (\$1.4M/biennium)
    - Tap banked capacity (\$1.4M)
    - Ask voters to approve property tax levy lid lift current rate \$1.31/\$1,000AV; Maximum rate \$3.10 (\$15.7M in 2006)
- Economic Contingency: \$1.5M
  - Remaining balance of \$1.8M held as a hedge against future economic weakness
- 1% increase in the City's portion of the property taxes that totals \$220,000 over the biennium

#### Major Revenue Assumptions

- Sales tax growth: 5%/year
  - No fiscal impact from Streamlined Sales Tax legislation
- Property Taxes: Increase 1% per year plus new construction of \$250,000 annually
- Growth in utility tax revenue of approximately 3% per year
- Assumes continued contracting with Fire District #34
  - No impact from termination of Sammamish/EFR contract

# Major Revenue Assumptions Outstanding Issue

- Streamlined Sales Taxes (SST)
  - Will be reintroduced by the State in 2005 legislative session
  - No compromise reached between cities
  - City continues to lobby for full mitigation and concurrency with federal legislation

## 2005-2010 Forecast Results Three Scenarios

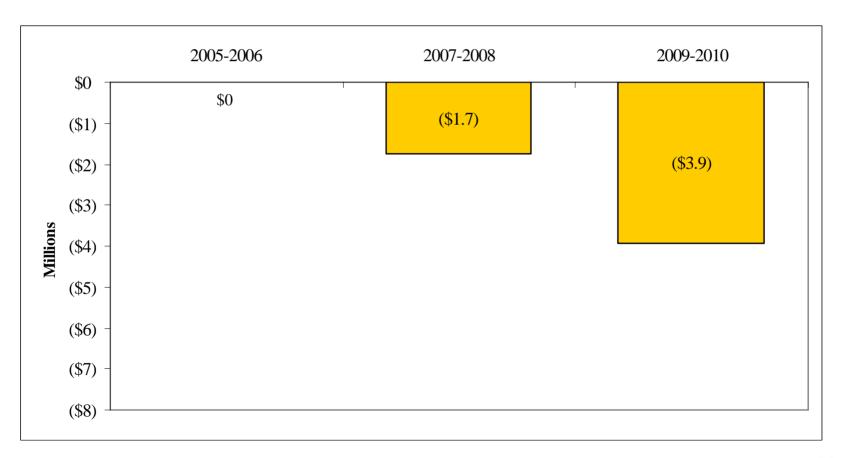
Scenario 1: Baseline - No new FTEs

 Scenario 2: Additional staffing to maintain current service levels

- Scenario 3: Staffing of FS#17
  - Alternative A: Aid car only
  - Alternative B: Full staffing

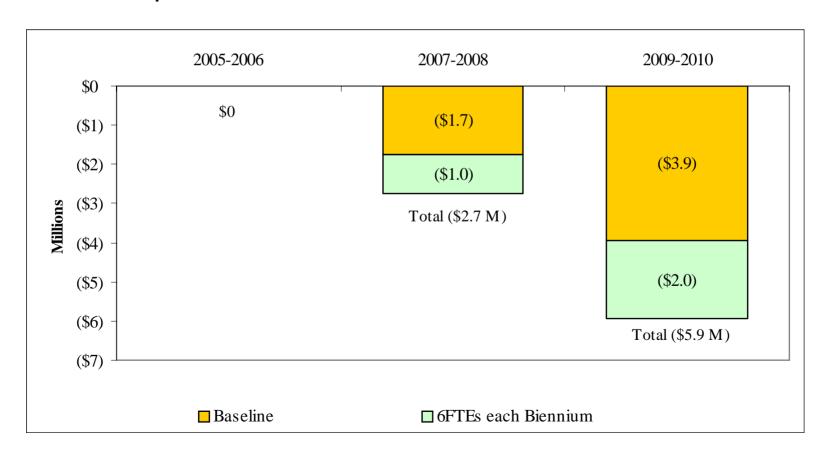
#### Scenario 1: Baseline Forecast (No New FTEs)

- Deficit result of:
  - Use of economic contingency in 2005-06 (one-time)
  - Cost of maintaining current service levels outpacing revenues



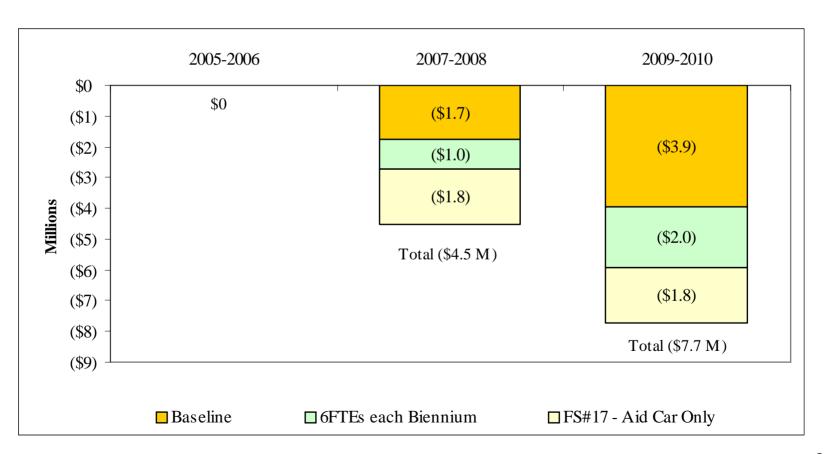
## Scenario 2: Additional Staffing to Maintain Current Service Levels

 Add 6FTEs each biennium for a total of 12FTEs over forecast period. Each FTE costs \$160,000/biennium.



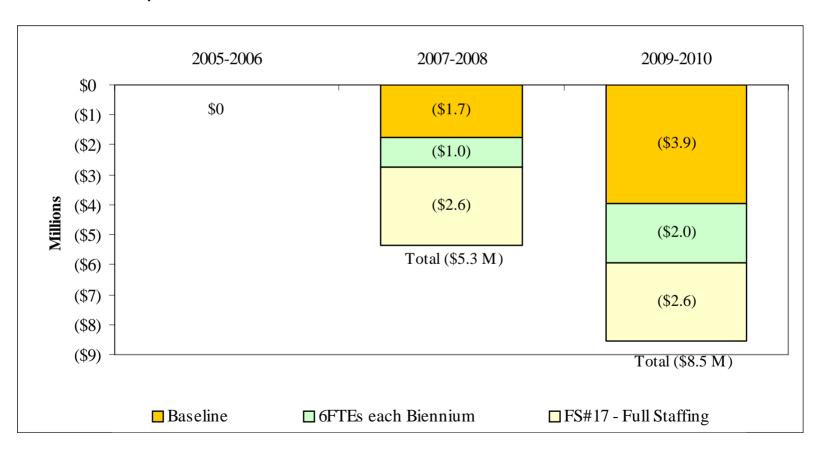
#### Scenario 3A: Staffing FS #17 - Aid Car Unit Only

Adding Aid Car only will require additional \$1.8M
 and 8FTEs



## Scenario 3B: Fully Staff FS #17

- Full staffing requires an aid car and an engine company for a total of 12 FTEs.
  - Cost to operate and maintain station: \$2.6M/biennium



## Options Available to Close Fiscal Gap

- Proposals Included in Mayor's Preliminary Budget
  - 1% increase in Redmond's portion of property tax that will generate \$110,000 annually or \$220,000 over the biennium
  - Use \$1.5 million of economic contingency. Represents one-time infusion of capital and therefore does not address long term need
  - \$3.5M of new revenue. Choices include:
    - Inflationary adjustment for business license fee (\$2.0M/biennium)
    - Raise utility tax rate from 5.5% to 6% (\$1.4M/biennium)
    - Property Tax
      - □ Tap Banked Capacity (\$1.4M balance)
      - □ Ask voters to lift the property tax lid current rate \$1.31/\$1,000AV; maximum \$3.10/\$1,000AV (\$15.7M in 2006)

## Options Available to Close Fiscal Gap

- Other Options
  - B&O Tax up to .2% on gross receipts (\$35.2M/biennium)
  - Keep operating reserve at 8.5% (one-time savings \$807,000)
  - Reduce levels of service

#### How To Close Future Fiscal Gap Interjurisdictional Comps - Utility Tax Rates

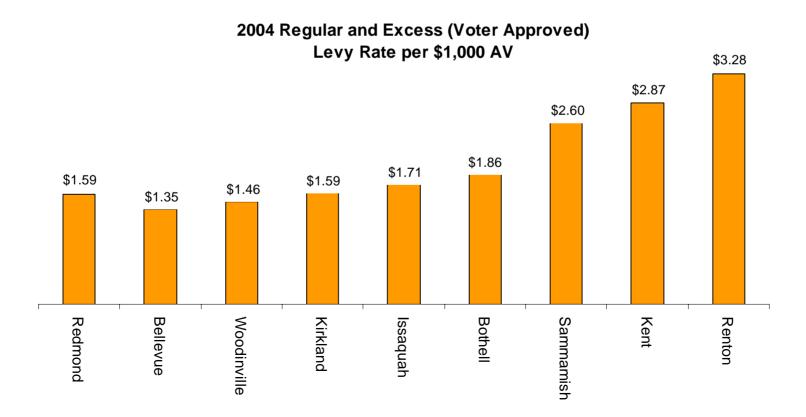
Redmond is one of a few cities not taxing its own utilities.

	Electricity	Telephone	Natural Gas	City Utilities*
Bothell	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	5.0%
Issaquah	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	None
Renton	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%
Seattle	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	10.0%
Tacoma	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	8.0%
Redmond	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	none
Federal Way	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	None
Kirkland	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	6.5%
Kent	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	6.0%
Bellevue	4.5%	6.0%	4.5%	4.5%

<sup>\*</sup> Water, Sewer, and Storm

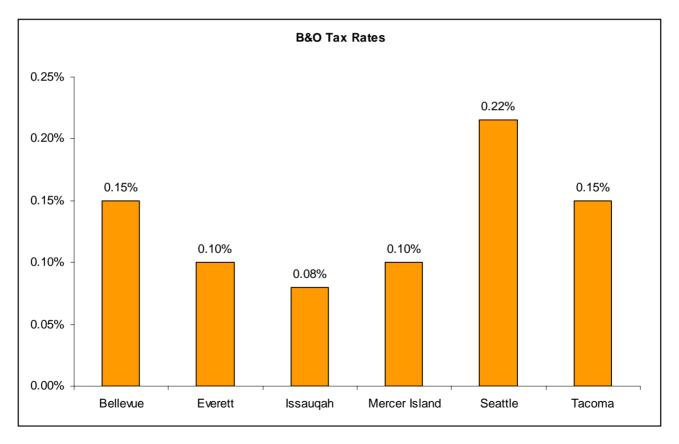
#### How To Close Future Fiscal Gap

- Interjurisdictional Comps Property Tax Rates
- Redmond has one of the lowest tax rates of surrounding jurisdictions
  - Only the cities of Bellevue and Woodinville are lower



## B&O Tax Comparison Between Cities

- B&O Tax is in effect for 39 cities in the State.
  - Note: Redmond and Renton levy a head tax rather than a tax on gross receipts (Renton \$55.68\*/Redmond \$67.50)



<sup>\*</sup> City of Renton head tax is \$.029/employee hour worked. Source: City of Renton Website.

#### Conclusions

- City at a crossroads. Existing revenues no longer sufficient to pay for current programs and services.
- Mayor's proposal to balance 05/06 Budget includes \$1.5 million of one-time money, a 1% property tax increase, and \$3.5 million of new revenue.
- Even with the new revenues, the City has a fiscal gap beginning in 2007/08.
- Pressure on City finances in future years include:
  - Cost to maintain existing services
  - Regional services
  - Staffing of Station 17
  - Streamline Sales Tax Legislation
- Developing a sound long-term financial plan is the most critical issue facing the City in the foreseeable future.